

THE 4★ PUZZLER

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Oscar Wilde? (p 4)**NEW PUZZLES:**NPL Convention
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... AND MORE!

National Puzzlers' Convention

The National Puzzlers' League held its annual meeting at Syracuse University August 6-9, and guess what members did—they played puzzles and word games through a four-day weekend.

The gathering was the 142nd convention since the League's founding in 1883. The group, the world's oldest puzzlers' organization, has approximately 300 members, and a monthly magazine called *The Enigma*, which specializes in verse puzzles and anagrams of the type featured on the *Four-Star's* "Sphinx Page." About 50 members attended this year's meeting.

The evenings at the convention, as always, were devoted to games—like "Murder Mystery" by Emily Cox and Henry Rathvon, who puzzle under the nom de plume "Hex." (Every member adopts a puzzle pseudonym upon joining the League.) Teams of four solvers raced to crack a series of word puzzles in order to narrow a field of murder suspects to one. One puzzle, for example, had the answer "Pope Innocent," which cleared Alexandria Pope from the list of suspects. Another was answered "canteens," which exonerated the two teenagers in the lineup.

"Mime's Palindromes," a convention free-for-all, was played like charades except with palindromic answers. Solvers were told the number of words in each answer and the number of letters in the words, but hints didn't seem to help when the answer was as inscrutable as YACHT REBATE? GET A BERTH CAY.

Two of the most popular games were based on TV shows. In "Face the Music," directed by the *Four-Star's* Henry Hook ("Double-H"), teams of solvers

identified old and new song titles to get a chance to solve a puzzle based on the titles. For instance, if the puzzle category were "Famous Person" and you identified the following songs—"Release Me," "Unchained Melody," "Magic," and "I'm Just Wild About Harry"—your answer would be HARRY HOUDINI.

In "Chain Reaction," two players asked questions to a third team member to get him to answer specified words. The handicap: questioners had to alternate words as they spoke, leading to hilariously contorted sentences.

Amidst the frivolity, members accom-

plished a little serious work during the weekend. The most important was laying plans for a written history of the League, with hope for publication by the NPL's centennial in 1983.

The business, though, didn't get in the way of the entertainment, and some members staggered away from the exhausting weekend gamefest with a happy but dazed look.

Readers who would like a fuller taste of the National Puzzlers' League convention will find sample games and competitions on page 5.

—W.S.

1 Humpty and Crumpety

DENYS PARSONS

"Look at this!" shrieked Humpty Dumpty. "It's a letter from Crumpety Bumpety, my girlfriend in the next village. I sit on a wall all day; she sits on a committee all day. So we hardly ever meet. Now she writes me a letter and those cads, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, have covered it with broken eggs!"

"What you mean," Alice said, after examining the letter, "is that they have merged the letters of the word EGGS many times into the message."

"That's exactly what I said!" Humpty Dumpty yelled. Not at all what he said, thought Alice, but she puzzled out the letter for him. What was Crumpety Bumpety's message?

Answer, page 10

D G G S A G R S G E L I G N G S E H E U G G S M E P T E Y :
T E S G H G S E K G E G G S I N E G S S H O G R S S E G E S
A G E S N E D G T S S H E G K G E G G S I N E G S M E G G S
N S G A R G E G G S C E G O G M S S I G N G G S I E N G Y G
O S U G R D E G G I S R E C G T I O E G S N . I G G H E G A
E G G E E G E G V S S E A G N E G G A E G G S I N E G F G E
G A S R E G S T H E G G S R E G G S G C O G G S U L E G D B
E G A G G S H O G C G K I E G N G A G C E S C I G E S D E G
N E S T . D O G G S T A G E S K E G G S C A R G E . Y E G G
S O U S R L S E O V G I N E G G G C R G U G M E P E T E Y .

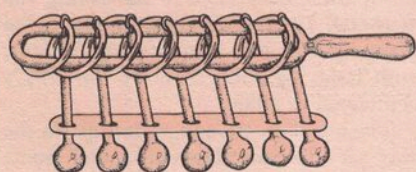
Who's Who in Puzzledom

Jerry Slocum

Jerry Slocum's home is an alluring combination of toy store, art museum, and library. He owns one of the world's largest collections of mechanical puzzles (4,000 plus) and puzzle-oriented books (about 1,500 volumes).

A mechanical puzzle, Slocum says in precise, measured cadence, is "a puzzle that involves manipulation of objects"—such as the Rubik's Cubes, twisted wire rings, and disassembleable wooden blocks that at one point or another have threatened to drive most of us insane.

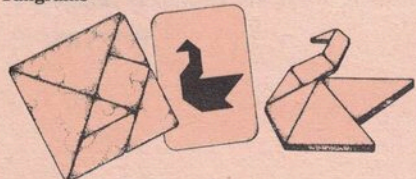
Chinese Rings



The Chinese rings puzzle, for example, is one of Slocum's favorites. It consists of a double-barred rod interlocked with a series of rings, the object being to remove the rod from the rings. "It dates back to the 1st century," Slocum says, "with one reported origin being that a Chinese general gave it to his wife so she would remain faithful."

Chinese rings have been produced in varying sizes of four to ten rings, with each additional ring approximately doubling the time needed to remove the rod. Slocum says, "By 15 to 16 rings, so many movements would be needed to remove the rod that the puzzle could not be solved in a lifetime." The puzzle has been made in many materials, and Slocum has about a dozen in exquisitely carved ivory.

Tangrams



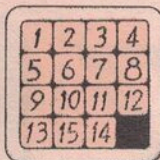
Another Slocum puzzle is tangrams, a collection of geometric die-cut pieces that can be rearranged to form a myriad of shapes. "It may be the most widely played puzzle of all time," says Slocum. Invented in China around 1800, tangrams quickly spread throughout the world. Slocum's finest set is in stone, produced by the F. Richter Company in Germany at the turn of the century.

One of Slocum's most curious puzzles is a small wooden box (8" x 3" x 2½") with a secret lock, produced on Pitcairn

Island by a descendant of Fletcher Christian. Since the box cannot be opened without knowing the trick, it once made an excellent storage for snuff and other illicit items.

"The best mechanical puzzles," Slocum allows, "are ones that are difficult to do, yet have only a few pieces. I like something that's simple and elegant."

14-15 Puzzle



These two criteria are evident in Sam Loyd's 14-15 puzzle (introduced in the 1870s) and the current Rubik's Cube, both objects of intense fads. In Loyd's puzzle, the goal is to slide fifteen numbered blocks so that the 14 and 15 are put in proper sequence. It proved particularly maddening when it first appeared, since a solution from the initial position is mathematically impossible.

Slocum got interested in puzzles as a teenager in Chicago, when he "became fascinated with the idea of taking a puzzle apart and figuring out how it went together." His collection grew as he began corresponding with other enthusiasts around the world and hunted for puzzles on his frequent travels.

Now 50, Slocum is married, with two sons in college, and is a designer of electronics equipment for Hughes Aircraft in California. His recent work includes designing the sophisticated cockpit displays and controls for the F-14 Tomcat fighter plane.

His puzzle hobby has grown so that each spring about two dozen serious collectors gather in his puzzle museum to talk and trade puzzles and books. "I'd be glad to exchange both old and new books with other puzzle fans," adds Slocum, inviting readers to write him at his address: P.O. Box 1635, Beverly Hills, CA 90213.

Does Jerry Slocum, a man as likely as anyone to figure out how to put Humpty Dumpty back together again, ever trade solutions as well as puzzles? "One of my rules is not to tell people how to solve a puzzle," he reflects. "The joy of working a puzzle is discovering its secret yourself."

—ROBERT D. SPURRIER

For Starters

Having just returned from the National Puzzlers' League convention August 6-9, and flushed with the excitement of the weekend, we compiled the report and convention games you see on pages 1 and 5 of this issue. Readers who would like to know more about the League may write

us at the *Four-Star* for a free NPL minisample. (Please enclose a stamped return envelope for reply.)

Question: What's different about this issue? Well, for one thing, the solving competition this month is *not* the rebus cartoons (which begin in their old spot on page 4), but the "Cross-Number" math-logic puzzle on page 6. Try it and tell us what you think. Also new are "Cryptolists" on page 6, a change of pace from the regular cryptograms. Be alert! There's more to them than meets the eye.

Two readers—Joel Darrow of White Plains, NY, and Alan Frank of Somerville, MA—have bettered our solution to July #42, in which we asked, "If a catcher bats exactly twice in a given inning and there are no lineup changes, what is the highest number of runs that can be scored by the team in that inning?" Our answer was 23. But consider: Bottom of the ninth, the home team comes up, trailing by 25 runs. If no outs are made in 25 at bats and the 26th is a home run, 26 runs will be scored in one inning to end the game with the catcher left on deck.

Mistakes Dept.: In July #39, question 3, Stephen Foster should be placed in the 1850s.

Mystery Solved Dept.: Soon after the announcement of August's winning Acronymbles entry, sent anonymously, we received the following note . . . "Dear *Four-Star*—I am torn between the embarrassment of admitting that I forgot to include my name on my Acronymbles entry and the greed for my first prize. Greed wins! Nancy Salomon, Rochester, NY." The prize books have been sent.

Every so often we receive interesting Sphinx Page contributions which, for one reason or another, we cannot use. For example, J. K. Martin of Brighton, MA, sends the anagram SEE LABOR TEAMS JAB, ARGUE, KILL? (*5 *6 8 6). But by the time we received it, the MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STRIKE was already history.

Then there's the too topical anagram KAYO HIM OR HE'LL WIN (*5 *7 *4) by *Four-Star* competitions director Linda Bosson. You'd have to know our brainy associate editor HENRY WILLIAM HOOK to appreciate its aptness.

We sort of like ENIGMA, MAZE—GAS (*5 8) by Murray Pearce of Bismarck, ND, but are upset to think that GAMES MAGAZINE can cause irregularity.

Finally, not a puzzle, but a pretty palindromic by Chaim Fleischman of Nahariya, Israel. It describes the effect of mentioning Iran around the White House: HE NAMES IRAN. O, IT CAN ANNOY RON OR YON NAN. ACTION! ARISE, MAN, EH?

Next month: Report on our European puzzle travels.

—W.S.

2 Mixed Blessings

DOROTHEA SHIPP

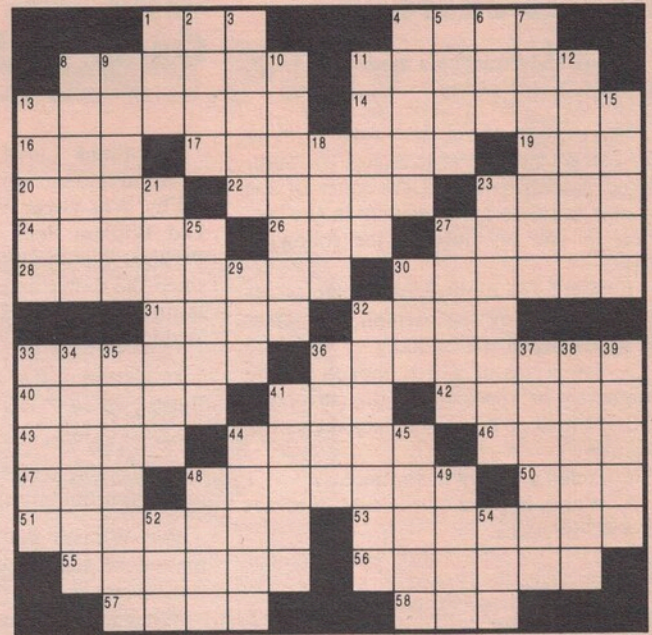
The four unclued words have something in common.

ACROSS

- 1 Nilsson of the Rangers
4 Meeting place
8 SEE INSTRUCTIONS
11 SEE INSTRUCTIONS
13 Give out
14 Where stamps say *Österreich*
16 Part of Crater Lake
17 Forfeit of a sort
19 Bad prefix
20 Home of Mont Blanc
22 Beetle Bailey's nemesis
23 Cause ennui
24 Is overabundant
26 Baseball's Ron
27 Plaza _____
28 Ripley's data
30 Wolf Larsen's creator
31 They're all at sea
32 *Blind Ambition* author
- 33 Cooperstown from Spavinaw, Okla.
36 Moderated
40 Bay window
41 An appliance, for short
42 Metric unit
43 Muscat's ally
44 Winter warmer
46 Man from Malmö
47 Dawdle
48 Before
50 Geisha's garb
51 Acclimated
53 Radioactive element
55 SEE INSTRUCTIONS
56 SEE INSTRUCTIONS
57 African fox
58 _____ Beta Kappa
- and Atropos
4 Tortilla topper
5 _____ *quam videri* (motto of North Carolina)
6 He's got a case: Abbr.
7 Copenhagen statue
8 Indicated satisfaction
9 Consolidated, in a way
10 Comminations
11 Shabby
12 Theater district
13 Euterpe's sister
15 *Meeting of the Minds* emcee
18 Mars' alter ego
21 Taken (with)
23 Berry baskets
25 Pickpocket's confederate
27 Daytime TV fare
29 Dander
30 Moon vehicle
32 Propriety

DOWN

- 1 Coffee vessel
2 A year and a day?
3 Lachesis, Clotho,



- 33 Pelf
34 Fleet
35 Torrent, metonymically
36 Santiago sandwich
37 To see again: Fr.
- 38 Place of darkness
39 Durable material
41 Nullifies
44 Kingdom of Minos
45 Set _____ (try to catch)
- 48 G.I. Tommys?: Abbr.
49 "Gadzooks!" e.g.
52 Attlee and Pitt: Abbr.
54 He was not found: Lat., abbr.

3 Cryptic Crossword

EMILY COX and HENRY RATHVON

Each cryptic clue contains two indications of its answer—a direct or indirect definition, and some sort of wordplay on it (anagram, pun, or reversal, etc.). You'll know when you have an answer because every word in the clue will have a role in leading you to it. Explanations will appear with answers next month.

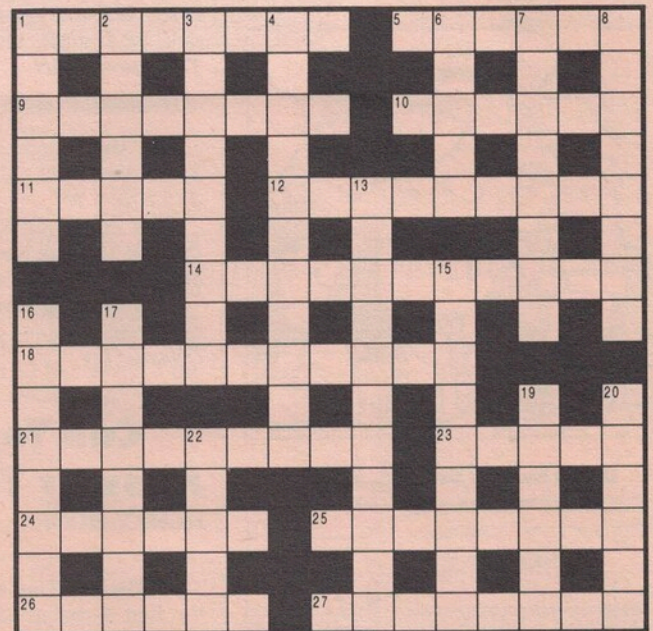
ACROSS

- 1 One in favor of wearing long dress (8)
5 Inclined to run in South Dakota (6)
9 Bum wore drab clothing (8)
10 Surrealist framing "Hour with a Flower" (6)
11 Money used in Oruro, Bolivia (5)
12 What comes out of a mine—a ton, roughly (9)
14 African heavyweight boxes with Greek (11)
18 Hole-digger at bus terminal causes annoyance (11)
21 Band of gold ran most of the way around trunk (9)
23 Rose to put in grassy ground (5)
24 Objects to working nights (6)

- 25 Rope the middle of calico cat (8)
26 Hardy wearing a toupee? (6)
27 Laurel in nice burlesque, for example (8)

DOWN

- 1 Indian meeting soldier who's caught holy cow! (6)
2 Navy missile is limited in range (6)
3 Grotes around vessel for supplies (9)
4 Masseuse has to schedule time for latex manufacturer (6, 5)
6 A shopping center comes up with animal carrier (5)
7 A pill crushed and swallowed makes you calm (8)



- 8 Analyze development of San Diego (8)
13 Nuclear device almost lands on one country—it's horrible (11)
15 Being reborn, eccentric earns money (9)
16 Emir upset about mail fraud (8)
- 17 100 relatives in golf-playing gathering (8)
19 Greek wandering in road (6)
20 Stick advertisement in this spot (6)
22 Bird dog can't get started (5)

Rebus Cartoons

Rebus Cartoons This Issue: 4, 5, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 38, 39.

The caption above each cartoon gives the category of the answer and the number of letters in it. All the parts of the answer are found *phonetically* in the cartoon in one or more of the following ways:

1. Words or hyphenated syllables actually spoken by the cartoon characters or appearing in the cartoon;
2. Synonyms of words spoken by the characters or appearing in the cartoon;
3. Names of prominent objects in the picture;
4. Isolated letters in the picture;
5. Words implied by the subject or action of the scene.

Novel: 6, 4

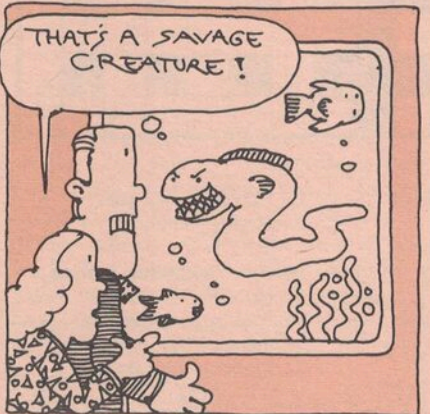


For example, the answer to the cartoon at left is *Vanity Fair*. It is sounded out by VAN, pictured in the background, the word IT in the dialogue, the letter E on the van, and FARE, suggested by the cabbie's \$4.80 (VAN-IT-E-FARE).

4 Tennis Star: 4, 7



5 Dean Martin Song: 5, 5



Why Was Oscar Wilde?

Results from July

Did Frank Lloyd Wright the winning question-and-answer name pun for the "Why Was Oscar Wilde?" contest? No. Did William Penn the best entry? No. Perhaps Natalie Wood have won, but since she didn't enter, first prize (\$50 of Bantam books) goes to Jerry Stephens of Waldorf, MD, for:

If, instead of Robert Browning, Robert Burns, would Robert Peel? Robert Sherwood!

Runners-up (receiving "Pip-Squirt" pens from Lakeside) are:

Did William Tell? No, but it doesn't matter, because Edgar Guest—*Tim Martin, Lawrence, KS*

What is B.B. King? The shooting title for which Ed Ames—*James Madden, Northampton, MA*

Why should I Philip the Great? To make sure that Robert Burns Motherwell—*Chester Wolfson, Ridgewood, NJ*

What did the angry Italian customer say to the tailor who was sewing in such an Ernest Hemingway? Euripides!—*Mitzi Christiansen, Bakersfield, CA*

Is General Joseph Stilwell? I heard Erich Maria Remarque that he's either sick, by George, Orwell—*Sheila Bishop, Youngstown, OH*

Honorable mention for:

Did the daughter of Alfred Nobel? Yes, Alexander Calder—*Steve Smith, Ann Arbor, MI*

Why does Paul Revere the Olympics? He likes the way Mark Spitz—*Jacqueline Stewart, Atlanta, GA*

How long did Howard Baker? Until he saw Irene Dunne—*Jane M. Tiller, New Orleans, LA* —LINDA BOSSON

6 Can You Answer This?

HENRY HOOK

Answers, page 10

1. Election Day in the U.S. is always the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Similarly, when is Easter always celebrated?

2. Cygnus X-1 is the name of the first: (a) "black hole" discovered by scientists, (b) science-fiction movie, made in 1936, or (c) winner of the Kentucky Derby?

3. What earth-shattering event occurred at Sarajevo on June 28, 1914?

4. "Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring." What's the more familiar line that precedes this one?

5. What unusual thing do singers Enrico Caruso, Tony Martin, and Elvis Presley have in common?

6. Everybody knows about Clark Gable, Vivien Leigh, and the rest, but who directed the classic film *Gone With the Wind*?

7. "I don't see what's wrong with giving him a little experience before he goes into law practice." Who said these words? Of whom?

8. Which are North America's three largest lakes?

9. What was the last name of the third baseman in the 1964 World Series?

10. Who was to Elizabeth Barrett Browning what Charley was to John Steinbeck?

11. When might a Russian say, "Vashe zdorovie"?

12. In the summer of 1943 the headline "One Down, Two to Go" appeared in newspapers across the country. In reference to what?

13. The illustrator for such novels as *Treasure Island* and *The Last of the Mohicans* had an equally artistic son. Name the son.

14. A common chemical process involves the combination of oxygen with a compound of sesquisulphide of phosphorus, chlorate of potash, and a small piece of wood. What is this process?

15. In 1963, Winston Churchill was made an honorary citizen of the U.S. Before him, who was the last such honoree?

THE 4★ PUZZLER

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Games Puzzlers Play



The puzzles on this page come from the games and competitions of the 142nd National Puzzlers' League convention (see page 1). Time limits appear with each, for solvers who enjoy the stimulus of test conditions. To race or not to race is up to you.

Answers, page 10

7 Shedding Light

JUDITH ADAMSKI ("Philana")

How many clues do you need to identify the subject of this riddle?

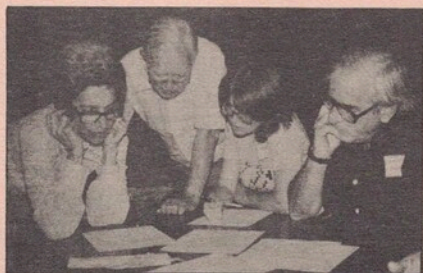
Time limit: 5 minutes.

1. I was born in the United States in the 20th century.
2. Even though I have a man's name, I was named for a famous 19th-century woman.
3. I have never held public office, but am associated with many men who have.
4. I am very petite—too petite according to my many detractors, but even they must admit I have an extraordinary shape and form.
5. In these days of sexual liberation, I'm unusual in that I won't go as far as my predecessors or as far as most men would like me to.
6. My mate and I are considered equals under the law, but while I am firm and unyielding, he folds under pressure.
7. He has a much shorter life expectancy than I.
8. My predecessor in my current position was Eisenhower. The one two before him was called Morgan.
Who am I?

8 Shrdlu

HARRY HAZARD ("Hap")

First remove all vowels (including y) from each word below. Then rearrange the five consonants that remain—inserting any vowels you wish, including y—to form a common, unhyphenated English word. Proper names, plurals, verbs formed by adding s, and past tenses end-



Team-solving competition: Four heads are better than one.

ing in ED are not allowed. Note: The answer PARAPHRASE would not count for #1, since it contains an extra R, nor would SHIPPER count, since the consonants are not rearranged.

Time limit: 16 minutes.

1. SHOPPER _____
2. LACKWIT _____
3. WOLFISH _____
4. COACHMAN _____
5. THONGED _____
6. LECTERN _____
7. CARBONIC _____
8. WALNUTS _____
9. LIMERICK _____
10. MANNERED _____
11. CYNICISM _____
12. UNNAMEABLE _____

9 Puzzle Relay

DAVID ROSEN ("Señor")

This popular contest, which debuted at the 1979 NPL convention (see "Transcendental Party Games," *Games*, November/December 1979), is played with teams of five, each seated in a column, with team member #2 behind #1, #3 behind #2, etc. All turn over papers at the same time, but only the first puzzle is designed to be solved without the help of the previous team member's answer. Upon receiving the answer sheet and solving his puzzle, each player fills in his answer and passes the sheet back. The first team to complete all five parts of the relay is the winner. Tackle this sample relay by yourself.

Time limit: 10 minutes.

ANSWER SHEET

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Puzzles

1. A single four-letter word means "to swallow," "blue," "below," and "feathers." Print this word in blank #1 and pass the answer sheet back.
2. Only one common five-letter word both begins and ends with the third letter of answer #1. Print this word in blank #2 and pass the answer sheet back.

3. The word DROOPIEST may be transposed into a word for someone you might see in a bank. This transposal begins with the third letter of answer #2. Print this word in blank #3 and pass the answer sheet back.

4. No letter of a six-letter word meaning "sweet" alphabetically precedes the third letter of answer #3. Print this word in blank #4 and pass the answer sheet back.

5. A seven-letter word beginning with the fourth letter of answer #4 means "to lift," either physically or spiritually. If the first letter is dropped, the resulting six-letter word means "to commend." Again dropping the first letter results in a five-letter synonym of the original seven-letter word. Print this seven-letter word in blank #5 and stand up.

10 Brain Game

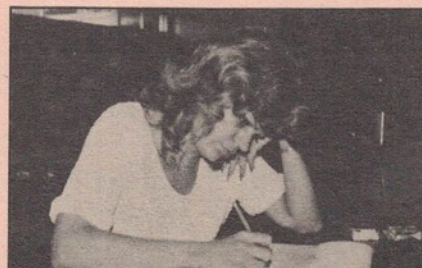
WILL SHORTZ ("Willz")

Fill the same pair of letters in the two blanks by each number to complete a common eight-letter word reading across.

Time limit: 4 minutes.

Ex. B AR NY AR D

1. C _____ FR _____ T
2. V _____ AL _____ Y
3. K _____ DL _____ G
4. U _____ LE _____ H
5. C _____ TE _____ A
6. L _____ OR _____ E
7. S _____ UR _____ E
8. B _____ TH _____ N
9. M _____ OT _____ Y
10. F _____ EW _____ D
11. D _____ GU _____ E
12. S _____ NG _____ I



Games in progress: Judith Adamski ("Philana") competes before "Shedding Light."

11 Cross-Number

A Mathematical Logic Contest

Our dear, late Uncle Max left a very simple, if eccentric, will: "I hereby bequeath to my nephew the contents of my bank deposit box, consisting of \$5 million, 350,000 shares of AT&T stock, a Tomytronic Wrist Bowling alarm watch, and 10 Executive Hex Nuts—with the following proviso. To discover the site of the bank box, dear nephew, you must solve the attached cross-number puzzle. The answer at 1-Across is the zip code of the city in which the bank is located. When you have identified the city, the executor will have further instructions. Good luck. Heh-heh."

Recently stricken by a rare disease that adversely affects our ability to solve cross-number puzzles, we appeal for readers' help in discovering the bank's location. In thanks for correct answers, we will generously share the Tomytronic Wrist Bowling watch and Executive Hex Nuts with 11 readers, keeping the rest, of course, for ourselves. We think Uncle Max would have wanted it that way.

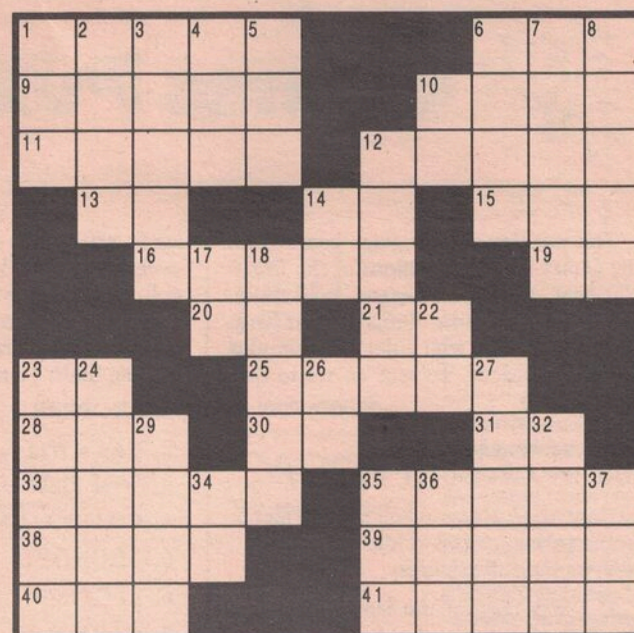
To Enter On a postcard or back of an envelope, write the name of the bank's city and state, and send to "Cross-Number," *The Four-Star Puzzler*, 515 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022. Entries must be received by October 31, 1981.

Winning Winners will be chosen by random drawing from correct entries. The solution and winners' names will appear in the January issue.

—M.S.

ACROSS

- 1 The ZIP code
- 6 Half as much again as the product of 21A and 31A
- 9 Twice the product of 14D and 35D
- 10 100 less than 2D
- 11 Multiple of 14A
- 12 Fourth power of 13A
- 13 See 12A
- 14 A perfect square
- 15 1,000 less than 2D
- 16 Square of 35D
- 19 Square root of 37D
- 20 Average of 14D and 26D
- 21 Product of the digits of 30A
- 23 See 6D
- 25 Half the product of 21A and 2D
- 28 Product of 13A and 20A
- 30 Difference between 14A and 37D
- 31 Sum of the eight digits surrounding the center black square
- 33 Multiple of 35D
- 35 Product of 19A and 2D
- 38 Product of 31A and 34D



- 39 Multiple of 41A
- 40 Multiple of 149
- 41 See 37D
- 6 Cube of 23A
- 7 40,000 more than 41A
- 8 Multiple of 271
- 10 Half the quotient of 32D and 14D
- 12 Multiple of 2D
- 14 Multiple of 19A
- 17 Difference between 20A and 37D
- 18 Half as much again as the product of 21A, 23A, and 35D
- 22 Average of 13A and 17D
- 23 Multiple of 15A
- 24 Multiple of 8D
- 26 Power of 2
- 27 Multiple of 37D
- 29 Half the product of 22D and 36D
- 32 Thrice the product of 19A and 22D
- 34 See 38A
- 35 100 more than 37D
- 36 Permutation of the digits of 15A
- 37 Square root of 41A

DOWN

- 1 Half the product of 13A and 22D
- 2 See 35A
- 3 Twice the product of 4D and 17D
- 4 Sum of 14D, 34D, 35D, and 37D
- 5 Product of 13A, 23A, and 30A divided by 10D

Cryptolists

Each list below consists of ten titles, one of songs, one of books, and one of movies, put into simple substitution letter codes. (A different substitution is used for each list.) The titles

in each list are all associated with a single person or group of people. Can you decipher the lists and identify the person or group?
Hint, page 10

12 Songs

TSRRIN FCGKMDPBS
HMB'E GCT KS RIZS
ENPFE MBO FLICE
BIDNSQPMB NIIO
EPHJSE EI DPOS
AMASDGMHJ NDPESD
TSFESDOMT
LSDS HIKSF ELS FCB
ELS XIIR IB ELS LPRR
SRSMBID DPQGT

13 Books

IUCFGTID CHQ NGHQZQH
AGX GTMA MUZQ EOUSQ
NHGF HXDDUC OUEV MGZQ
FGGTHCWQH
LGMINUTLQH
EVXTIQHKCMM
MUZQ CTI MQE IUQ
IGSEGH TG
NGH AGXH QAQD GTMA
GSEGRXDDA

14 Movies

ADTIWSY
HYIYTWYGO
IZD XFKB AFHWOZDO
TDFT UWHKYU
CTDHLB
HYTIZ VB HYTIZUDOI
CFQWXB EXYI
OEDXXVYGHK
CYTDWSH NYTTDOEYHKDHI
KWFX Q CYT QGTKDT

15 Acrostic Puzzle

M. C. MAAG

	1J	2A	3E	4Y		5H	6N	7V	8Q		9G	10M	11P	12D	13S	14L	15X	16U	17C		18K	19W	
20R	21B		22A	23I	24O	25T	26F		27J	28H	29G	30K		31V	32L	33X	34E	35C		36D	37S	38Y	39G
40C	41T	42M	43W		44N	45Q		46P	47A	48F		49O	50W	51B	52I	53R		54U	55P		56B		57T
58E	59M	60S	61D	62L	63K	64A		65V	66I	67T	68R	69H	70O	71C	72Y	73G		74S	75A	76Q	77D	78X	79M
80B	81J	82L		83C	84K	85W		86O	87E	88N	89F	90R	91U		92M	93Y	94T	95C	96K		97G	98H	
99A	100Y	101P		102F	103V	104E	105K	106I	107O		108V	109X	110R	111D	112U	113W	114L	115M		116S	117P		118C
119N	120B		121I	122H	123U	124X	125J	126A	127G	128V	129Q		130F	131T	132R	133M	134L	135O		136S	137P	138B	139R
140L		141D	142H	143G	144V	145O	146C	147M	148P		149U	150F	151J	152D	153A		154M	155E	156H	157Y	158B	159T	160X
161V	162E	163I		164T	165A	166W	167F	168H	169O	170J		171P	172C		173M	174B	175K	176L	177Q	178Y		179R	180A
181T	182I	183M		184V	185D	186A	187X		188K	189F		190L	191S	192N		193I	194P	195E	196T	197Y			

Answer the clues for words to be entered on the numbered dashes. Then transfer the letters on the dashes to the correspondingly numbered squares in the puzzle grid to spell a quotation reading left to right. Black squares separate words in the quotation. Work back and forth between grid and word list to complete the puzzle. When you are done, the initial letters of the words in the word list will spell the name of the author and the source of the quotation.

Clues

Word List

- A. Boxing classification 47 75 2 180 64 22 153 126 186
165 99
- B. Popular breakfast drink 158 80 56 174 21 138 51 120
- C. Bandleader Wayne King's sobriquet (2 wds.) 83 146 35 118 95 40 71 172 17
- D. Verified, affirmed 185 77 36 12 141 152 111 61
- E. Turns goods into raw material 58 162 104 155 3 87 34 195
- F. Thaws 26 48 189 150 89 130 167 102
- G. Kind of straight or flush (hyph.) 9 39 29 73 97 127 143
- H. Person without an equal 156 122 98 28 69 5 142 168
- I. McNeile's fictional detective 52 182 66 121 193 23 106 163
- J. Greek island also known as Mytilene 125 81 27 1 151 170
- K. Japanese admiral (1884-1943) 96 63 30 84 175 105 18 188

- L. 1949 Gene Kelly musical (3 wds.) 32 82 14 190 140 134 176 62 114
- M. Graffiti in "Smokey Stover" (2 wds.) 147 79 115 133 42 183 154 59 92
173 10
- N. Correctional pieces of wood or metal 6 119 44 88 192
- O. Founder of Islam 145 24 49 86 70 169 135 107
- P. Gratis (3 wds.) 171 148 46 137 101 11 194 55 117
- Q. Depressions 8 76 45 129 177
- R. Subjugates 68 132 53 139 20 110 179 90
- S. Multicolored array 37 60 191 13 74 116 136
- T. Award currently worth about \$200,000 (2 wds.) 67 131 57 181 25 159 164 196 94 41
- U. Detroit 112 54 91 123 149 16
- V. Latest in an indefinitely numerous series 144 108 184 65 7 103 31 161 128
- W. Interjection associated with Willie Mays (2 wds.) 85 50 166 19 113 43
- X. Hero of an 1819 novel 15 33 160 124 78 109 187
- Y. Small talk 157 4 38 72 197 100 93 178



The Sphinx Page



The puzzles on this page are like those written years ago, before crosswords became popular, when the Sphinx was called "The Patron Saint of Puzzledom."

Each puzzle in verse contains two or more missing words to be guessed, in such forms as charades (e.g., WOO + DEN = WOODEN), word deletions (SHADOW - HAD = SOW), transposals (MEDICAL/DECIMAL/CLAIMED), and heteronyms (REFUSE, with two pronunciations, meaning "trash" and "deny"). These keywords are represented by x's and y's—one for each letter in an omitted word. When the keywords have been correctly guessed, each verse will read with proper rhyme and meter, and will express an interesting thought, situation, or story.

An anagram is an apposite rearrangement of the letters in a word, name, or familiar phrase. For example, I'M A PENCIL DOT is an anagram of DECIMAL POINT.

Numbers in parentheses indicate lengths of answers. In anagrams, asterisks indicate capitalized words.

16 Word Deletion (7)

Despite the xxxxyyx of a gale
The sloop left xxxx at yyy o'clock.
I hope the captain turns his sail
And brings her safely back to dock.

Mel Rosen, Tampa, FL

17 Transposal (8)

The show's success goes on and on.
Nostalgia lives! I'm betting you
That even Henry Xxxxxxx's face
Will show some xxxxxxxx when it's
through.

Philip Cohen, Aliquippa, PA

18 Heteronym (5)

Jack and Jill went up the hill;
Then Jack came tumbling down.
Jill xxxxx his xxxxx with gentle
skill
And kissed his aching crown.

Elizabeth Glenn, San Francisco, CA

19 Charade (9)

A kind of engineering with problems
unforeseen
Delights the biochemist who tailor-
makes the xxxx.
This splicing is a process that yyyyy a
second glance—
Should not the life he xxxxyyyyy start
instead by chance?

Marge Deibel, Mt. Pleasant, MI

20 Transposal (7)

When good men lapse the Xxxxxxx
grins,
When one xxxxxxxx he swears;
And strives to set his former sins
Against his xxxxxxxx prayers.

A. Cyril Pearson, The Twentieth Century
Standard Puzzle Book, 1907

21 Letter Change (8)

Last time I bought a xxxxxxxx gem,
It was, alas, a fake!
So now this pearl you offer me
I truly cannot take.
I'm too afraid I might repeat
My xxxxyxxxx mistake.

Betty Jane Gassner, Staten Island, NY

22 Charade (9)

The bride and groom were quite
distressed:

Their dream house was not all they'd
planned.

In one detail, so manifest,
The xxxxyyyyy was out of hand.
"I hate to xxxx, but look!" he cried,
"They've made the yyyyy much too
small

For me to carry you inside.
You'll have to walk into the hall."

Carroll Mayers, Roswell, NM

23 Word Deletion (9)

With gourmet goodies I cajole
My man. He's xxxxyyyxx, that fellow.
My xxxxx is yyyy casserole,
Topped off by Oreos and Jell-O.

Marjorie Friedman, Buffalo, NY

Anagrams

24 EXIT ON CUE (9)

25 PARTLY ONE'S "I" (11)

Stephan R. Marlow, Davis, CA

26 HAIL, READ TOSS (5 2 5)

27 AIR NOT AT LUNGS (13)

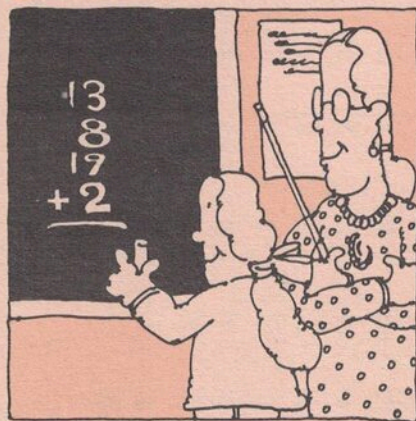
David Shulman, New York, NY

28 I, GNARLED ALSO-RAN, WON (*6 *6 *6)

Mark McDermant, San Rafael, CA

Do you feel the Muse? Send us an original puzzle of any type you have seen on this page, and we'll thank you with \$20 if it is used. Anagrams will be judged for appositeness, and poetic puzzles for cleverness of keywords and verse. Write "The Sphinx," The Four-Star Puzzler, 515 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. Enclose a stamped return envelope if you wish a reply.

29 Movie: 6, 2, 5-3



30 Movie Actor: 4, 6



31 Comedienne: 7, 4

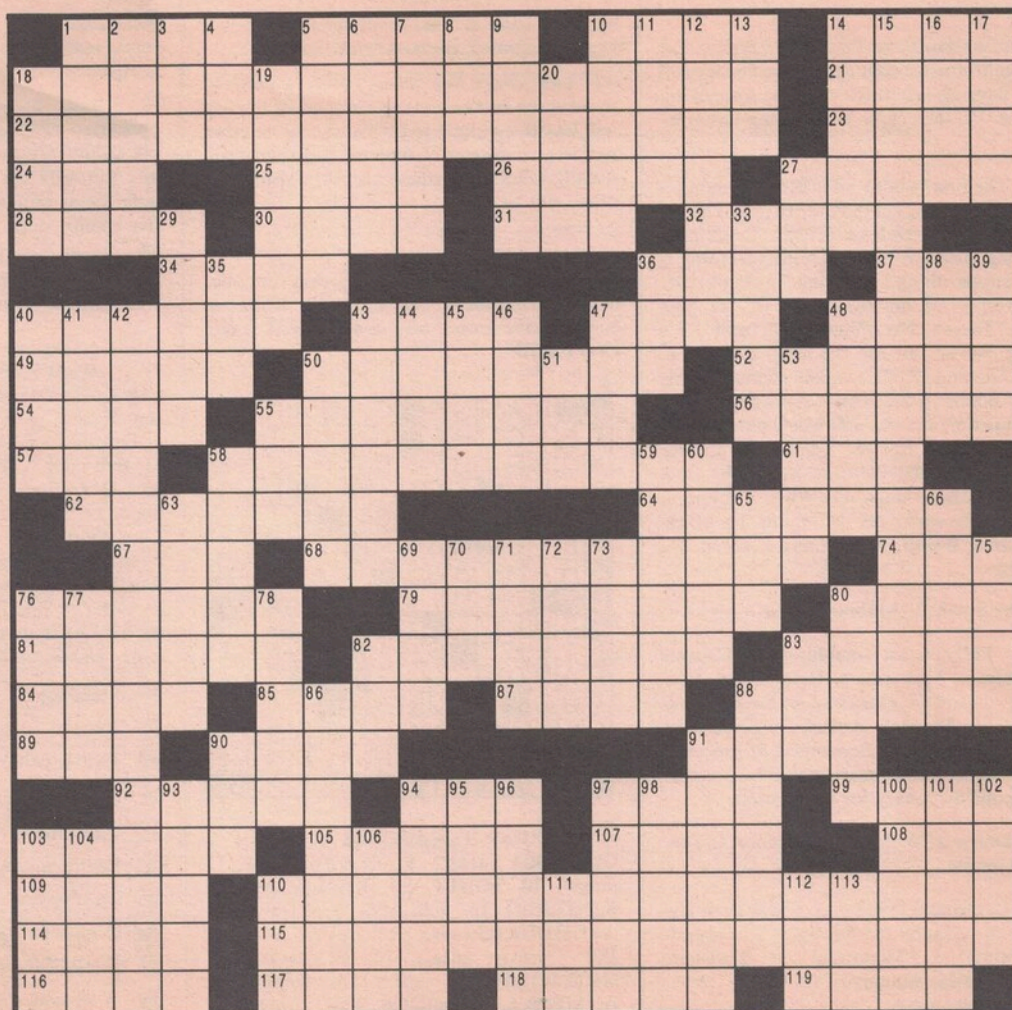


32 Symbolism

HENRY HOOK

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Thompson
5 Sample tapes
10 Take to the water
14 E-8 in the USMC
18 \$
21 Opposite of *alli*
22 &
23 Ready the banjo
24 Honest politician
25 Ancient land a/k/a Mt. Seir
26 Broadcast
27 Prominent proboscides
28 Where Archimedes discovered displacement
30 One of the Hornes
31 Off that way
32 Small drum
34 Status quo _____ (how things were)
36 Heavyweight Willard
37 Ecology-minded agcy.
40 Printing mishap
43 Attorney General, 1977-79
47 Predacean's treat
48 Served up a winner
49 Great Lakes mnemonic
50 Spattered with mud
52 Exceeding 90°
54 Temple University team
55 Term
56 *New York Times* columnist James
57 Princess' perturber
58 ÷
61 Souvenir from Fantasy Island
62 German measles
64 Shipping route
67 Yachtsman Turner
68 !
74 Swindled
76 Monkey-bread tree
79 Quantities of freight
80 Not born yesterday
81 Snub, in a way
82 French jurist Louis and English novelist Mary
83 Street: Sp.
84 Traveling bag
85 Our U-2 bargaining power
87 *Winnie _____ Pu*
88 Ho-daddy or hot dogger



DOWN

- 89 One of dem
90 Linen fiber
91 "Just _____ doch-an'-dorris..."
92 Spandau inmate, 1946-66
94 Tampa Bay player, for short
97 Diarist Frank
99 One of Barney Miller's men
103 Syrian president Hafez al-_____
105 Ballerina Shearer
107 Word with pop or jerk
108 Bam!
109 "Scooter" Rizzuto
110 ,
114 Vic's radio partner
115 =
116 Watches
117 Start of a Marx Brothers title
118 Clean the slate
119 Island of NW Denmark
- 1 Diver's apparatus
2 Decree
3 *Uno + uno*
4 "_____ was saying..."
5 Words after "fiddle"
6 Pélé's real first name
7 Family member
8 *Certaintement*
9 Go off somewhere
10 Stated emphatically
11 Finish line
12 Summer refresher
13 Rx's: Abbr.
14 San _____, CA
15 []
16 Yucky stuff
17 Father's Day gifts
18 Strikebreaker
19 Willowy
20 The Andrews Sisters, e.g.
27 Air rifle ammo
29 Nether regions
- 33 Heidelberg-born furrier
35 OK's' antitheses
36 Clampett patriarch
38 100 centavos
39 Capital of the PDRY
40 Boutique
41 Mechanical goat?
42 :
43 Lament
44 *Harper Valley PTA* star
45 Cilium
46 City on the Yellow Sea
47 Popular emcee
48 Bewildered
50 First name in NYC politics
51 _____ canto
53 Frisco-based attorney
55 Peruvian coin
58 Sweet-smelling hardwood
59 Inheritance, at times
60 Gary Cooper role
- 63 Jazzy renditions
65 Madison Avenue output
66 Emblem on the 18c "B" stamp
69 Reykjavik's land: Abbr.
70 Ms. Fabray, familiarly
71 Answer on a French exam
72 Hebrew month
73 Turn at the crap table
75 *Pulling Your Own Strings* author
76 Lone Star State city
77 Renowned mausoleum site
78 Memphis street celebrated in song
80 Rod of the Angels
82 Agatha : Hercule :: _____ : Nero
83 Indication
86 Tipplers tip her
- 88 Post-marathon description
90 Cop from D.C.
91 TV oldie, *He _____*
93 Pickets
94 Like the water below
95 1934 Nobelist
96 *Life _____ Beautiful*
97 Animal lovers' org.
98 Hideaways
100 "Happy Hooligan" cartoonist
101 Four U.S. Presidents
102 Is in arrears
103 Church area
104 "One-hoss" vehicle
106 Nadia's predecessor
110 "Conning Tower" monogram
111 Longest wholly Swiss river
112 Phonograph abbr.
113 "So that's it!"

ANSWERS

This Issue

① Darling Humpty: The King's horses and the King's men are coming in your direction. I have a nagging fear there could be a shocking accident. Do take care. Your loving Crumpey.

⑥ 1. The first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox. 2. (a). 3. The assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, launching World War I. 4. "A little learning is a dangerous thing" (Alexander Pope). 5. Their respective hit recordings of "O Sole Mio," "There's No Tomorrow," and "It's Now or Never" all use the same melody. 6. Victor Fleming. 7. JFK, upon appointing his brother Bobby to the post of Attorney General. 8. Superior, Huron, and Michigan. 9. Boyer—Ken played for St. Louis; his brother Clete played for the Yankees. 10. Flush—they were the authors' dogs. 11. When drinking a toast. 12. The surrender of Italy to the Allies. 13. Andrew Wyeth. 14. Lighting a match. 15. Lafayette.

⑦ The Susan B. Anthony dollar

⑧ 1. Perhaps or sapphire 2. Catwalk 3. Wishful 4. Mechanic 5. Doughnut 6. Central or control 7. Corn cob or buccaneer 8. Waistline 9. Armlock or mackerel 10. Mandarin or undermine 11. Economics or moccasin 12. Nobleman. Other answers may be possible; check your dictionary for verification.

⑨ 1. Down 2. Widow 3. Depositor 4. Syrupy 5. Upraise

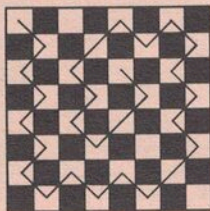
⑩ 1. Confront 2. Vitality 3. Kindling 4. Unclench 5. Criteria 6. Licorice 7. Saturate 8. Brethren 9. Monotony 10. Foreword 11. Disguise 12. Shanghai

⑫ ⑬ ⑭ Read down the first letters of the coded titles to find the person or group with which the titles are associated.

⑮ Since the catwalk between B&B's buildings was two inches too low to pass the long-haul rigs, there was only one way that such a unit could have passed—if enough air had been let out of the trailer's tires to lower it a little more than two inches. All Inspector Hardcase had to do was look for a rig with noticeably low tires, particularly since the dispatcher had mentioned that all B&B trucks received safety checkouts before leaving the yard.

⑯ Inconvenience.

⑰ 29 squares. Here is one possible path:



⑱ 1000. Each palindromic reading must have the form ABCBA, where A, B, and C can each range through the ten digits 0 to 9, so there are $10 \times 10 \times 10 = 1000$ possibilities.

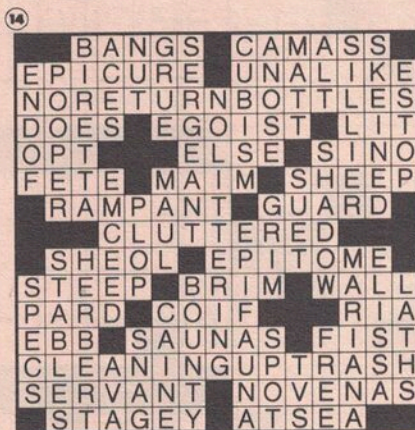
⑲ None. Each palindromic reading has the form ABCBA, so once again there are 1000 possibilities.

⑳ The letter is "psi," completing the words gypsies, lopsided, tipsiness, and capsizes.

㉑ Late. Since the plane averages half the usual speed on the first leg, this part of the trip will be twice as long as usual—taking, in other words, the amount of time the full round trip usually takes. Regardless of return speed, the plane will be late.

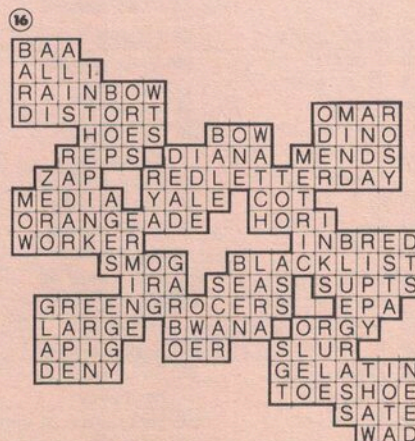
Last Issue

① Blouse, gigolo, deady, ocelot, chrome, overdo. *What the mother said to the little cowboy after she tucked him in bed—GOT YOU COVERED!*



⑮ ACROSS: 1. CATCHES (2 mngs.) 5. CLAIMED (anag.) 9. PARTY LINE (2 mngs.) 10. TONI-C 11. BOWL(E.G)S 12. KIND-RED 13. E.B.-BED (deb rev.) 15. ARCHDUKES (anag.) 17. LO(W.C.-O)ME-DY (melody anag.) 19. BO(S)OM 21. GR(I'M)IER 23. GELATIN (anag.) 25. A.(ME)B.A. 26. MINOR SUIT (anag.) 27. DESTI-N.Y. (sited anag.) 28. CAN(APE)S (pea anag.)

DOWN: 1. CAP-ABLE 2. THREW (homophone) 3. HAYSEED (anag.) 4. SHIPS-HAPE (heap anag.) 5. C-REEK 6. ATTUNED (anag.) 7. MAN-DRACKES 8. DECO-DES 14. BAWDINESS (anag.) 16. CRYOGENIC (anag.) 17. LAG-GARD (all rev.) 18. OR(IGAM)I (Magi rev.) 20. MINUTES (anag.) 22. RUMMY (2 mngs.) 24. T-RUMP



⑲ Calypso balladeers compete fiercely for prizes while tourists just enjoy their improvisations.

⑳ Grand Prix formula one auto racing draws macho daredevil drivers from various foreign countries.

㉑ Parade horse rider often sports such equestrian equipage as jeweled pommel horn, silk saddle strings.

㉒ Butterfly net wielded by expert lepidopterist yields exquisite specimens, including elusive sphinx moth.

㉓ Opera bouffe's humorous imbroglis, bouffant costumes, buffo arias intrigue buffs while others yawn.

㉔ Word List: A. Wheelbarrow B. Rhapsody C. Equestrienne D. Swell E. Phosphorescent F. Yellow G. Tenant H. Have I. Enliven J. Gratification K. Annihilated L. Matthew M. Evil hour N. Ophitic O. Flaccid P. Whipping Q. Orchard R. Runabout S. Daiquiri T. Stunt

Quotation: I have an acquaintance who is writing quite an important paper on the threat of unbridled population growth, which he calls "pollulation": very clever, and I can see why he finds the word irresistible.—W.R. Espy, *The Game of Words*

㉕ Mass-age

㉖ Cot-ton

㉗ Pastry/paltry

㉘ Dislocate/diet colas

㉙ Clin(chin)g

㉚ Squire/quires/risqué

㉛ Oz/ahs; ooze/oohs

㉜ Palms/lamps/psalm

㉝ Elastic/plastic

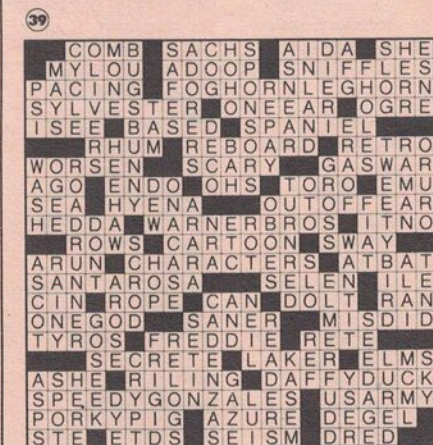
㉞ A narcotics dealer

㉟ Southern hospitality

㊱ Table tennis

㊲ Mistaken identity

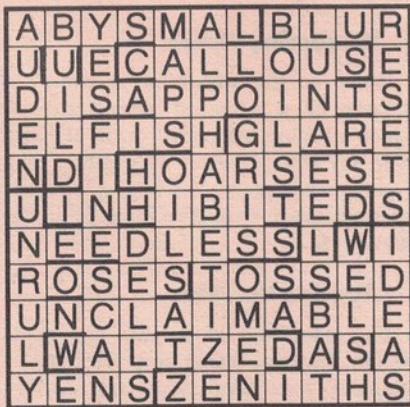
㊳ Puritanism is the haunting fear that someone somewhere may be happy. (H.L.) Mencken



㊴ As per 5-Down (ALPHABETIZE), the Across entries were to be entered in alphabetical order, from top to bottom in the diagram.

ACROSS: a. WALT-ZED B. EL-FISH c. YE-N,S d. BLU(e)R e. TO-SS-ED f. I-NHI-BITED (behind it anag.) g. ABYSMAL (hidden) h. UNC(L[A]IM)AB)LE i. HOAR-SEST (anag.) j. GLARE (anag.) k. ZEN-ITHS (this anag.) 1. CALLOUS (homo-phone) m. D-ISAPPOINTS (passion pit anag.) n. ROS(E)S o. NEEDLE-SS

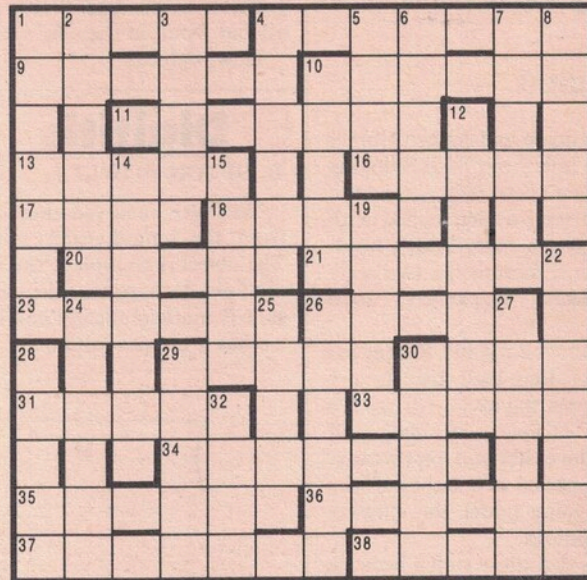
DOWN: 1. AU-DEN 2. BUILD (homo-phone) 3. (red)YES 4. M(A)PS 5. ALPHA-BETIZE 6. BO(I)LS (slob rev.) 7. LU(N)A(u) 8. RESETS (anag.) 9. FINE (2 mngs.) 10. G(R)-IS 11. OILS (anag.) 12. EEL-S (all rev.) 13. UN(d)(R)JULY (Democrat becomes Republican) 14. D(w)ELLS 15. WELSH (2 mngs.) 16. IDE(A)S 17. S-CAN 18. OMEN (anag.) 19. BAT (2 mngs.)



35 Loose Ends

JOHN DE CUEVAS

Some of the answers have one letter too many to fit the diagram. These leftover letters should be entered in the appropriately numbered spaces below the diagram.



ACROSS

1 4 9 11 18 21 26 34 37 38

DOWN

1 2 7 12 14 22 24 26 27 32

33 Country Singer: 7, 5



34 Nation: 5



ACROSS

- 1 Prepare an attorney to fight in the navy (6)
- 4 Get together around the river for physical (8)
- 9 Not being in gear may make you run late (7)
- 10 Arranged, but stored incorrectly (6)
- 11 Close look into universities maintained by elders (8)
- 13 Lawlessness of Central America in revolt (5)
- 16 What are the odds of kind of lily being seen from the hill? (5)
- 17 One among the choices of what to use in the boat (4)
- 18 One or two seen chasing dog when the lights go out (6)
- 20 Fuels derived right from reefs (5)
- 21 Scare the French with flower cluster (7)
- 23 Confuse and lie by contradiction (6)
- 26 Calf is butchered—the result is monetary (6)
- 29 Gertrude's mug (5)

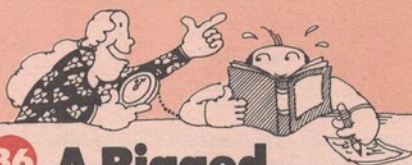
30 Mark is semi-ticklish (4)

- 31 Boxes of batteries (5)
- 33 React nervously to a bit of evidence (5)
- 34 Put in danger capturing a sovereign (8)
- 35 Scents beginning to rise in Western Samoa (6)
- 36 Under-expected defeat? (6)
- 37 Author of *Lives* not edited (8)
- 38 To go over it again has her fidgeting (6)

DOWN

- 1 Serpent of Canada: no metamorphosis (8)
- 2 Take back publication about being on top (7)
- 3 A cat's bits? (5)
- 4 Hundreds carrying gold to U.S. Senate meeting (6)
- 5 Chessman's swindle (4)
- 6 Trim the fruit (5)
- 7 Substitute for percale, in a way (7)
- 8 If said quickly, commercial will confuse (5)

- 10 Give a licking to party's leader after defamation (5)
- 12 "A coiling must be straightened," he thinks (8)
- 14 Protected from cold rain-storm (8)
- 15 Story arises about Caruso's initial success (5)
- 19 Hard to see failure isn't wrong (5)
- 22 Flowing silk seen in portrait (8)
- 24 Were boy misbehaving, you might raise one in disdain (7)
- 25 The field, incidentally, is out of bounds (5)
- 26 Art can make sense, if... (7)
- 27 Sounds like a mean collection (7)
- 28 Once a turbulent sea (5)
- 29 Oozy substance composed of sulfur and cement (5)
- 30 Eve originally filled in as center for the Redskins? (5)
- 32 Dismal life offers little (5)



36 A Rigged Escape, Hardcase?

Three-Minute Detective

ROBERT L. LIDDIL

Inspector Hardcase and Jephro Homer were less than a mile from B&B Shipping and Storage when their radio broadcast an A.P.B. for a semi-trailer loaded with color TVs just stolen from B&B's headquarters. Within a minute the two were interviewing B&B's dispatcher, John Ringer.

"I don't see how he did it" Ringer exclaimed. "Those long-haul trailers are too big to get down the middle drive. It's for the smaller in-town vans only and hooks up with the eastbound expressway. He should have peeled two inches off the top of the rig going under the catwalk between the buildings.

"But the rig's definitely stolen because I saw the rear of the trailer disappearing around the corner of the warehouse. Besides, the paperwork's still on my desk and the rig didn't get the required safety checkout."

"Let's go, Homer," Hardcase ordered. "Red light and siren! It's four miles to the first expressway exit. After that, we'd never find him."

Homer pointed ahead of them to a steady stream of taupe and magenta B&B 18-wheelers, halted on the access road to give them passage. "How are we going to pick out the right one?" he yelled over the siren's wail. "There may be twenty identical rigs on the road between here and the exit!"

"Not quite identical," Hardcase answered cryptically.

As they sped on toward town along the superhighway at 90 m.p.h., Hardcase

waved Homer past one B&B rig after another. Just a quarter-mile from the interchange Hardcase shouted, "Bingo!" and pointed to a rig just entering the exit lane ahead of them.

When the driver pulled over and stopped, after clearing the exit, he got down from the cab with a puzzled expression on his face. "How did you pick me out from all the other B&B rigs?"

How, indeed?

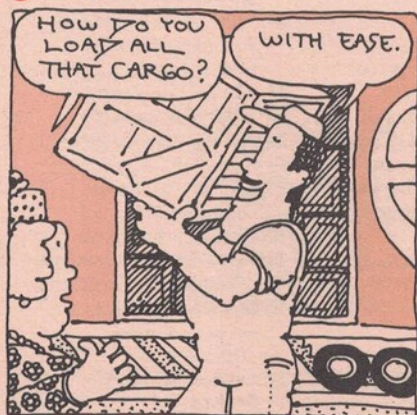
Answer, page 10

37 Digititis

B. UPTON-ROWLEY

We have removed most of the digits from the long-division problem below. The object is to replace the numbers, one digit per dash, so that the completed division is mathematically correct. The puzzle has a unique solution.

[illegible]

38 River: 9

39 Novel: 1, 8, 2, 4



At Wit's End

Answers, page 10

40 For Beginners

What 13-letter word can be spelled by using only the letters of the word NOV-ICE? You may use each letter N-O-V-I-C-E as often as you like.—*W.S.*

41 Wandering Bishop

What is the maximum number of squares of a standard chessboard on which a bishop may travel without going over any square twice? The bishop may begin anywhere on the board, and the starting square should be included in the count.—*H.H.*

42 Turning the Miles

The odometer of a new car reads 00000. Between 00000 and 99999 miles inclusive, how many odometer readings will be palindromic (i.e., unchanged when the order of digits is reversed)?—*Ed Galli, Baldwin, NY*

43 Turning the Miles Again

How many *more* palindromic readings are there on a six-digit odometer (between 000000 and 999999 inclusive) than on the five-digit odometer in the preceding puzzle?—E.G.

44 Dead Letter Dept.

What one letter will complete all four of the following common English words?

G Y _____ E S

L O — D E D

T I — N E S S

C A — Z E

—M.S.

45 Plane Sailing

A plane making a nonstop flight from New York City to Montreal averages only half the usual speed due to engine problems. If, on the return leg of the trip, the plane averages twice the usual speed, will the plane touch down in New York City early, late, or just on time?—*Cal Q. Leytor, Jersey City, NJ*

Do you have an original, unpublished brain-teaser? Send it to "At Wit's End," The Four-Star Puzzler, 515 Madison Avenue, New York NY 10022. We'll pay \$20 for each one used.